

Sri Lanka online lecture: “Two hundred years since the birth of Friedrich Engels”

International Youth and Students for Social Equality (Sri Lanka)
3 January 2021

The Socialist Equality Party (SEP) and International Youth and Students for Social Equality (IYSSE) invite workers, students, youth and *World Socialist Web Site* (WSWS) readers to attend an online public lecture on Sunday January 10 at 4 pm [Sri Lankan time].

The lecture to be given by an IYSSE speaker will be based on the WSWS article on the 200th anniversary of Friedrich Engels' birth by International Committee of the Fourth International secretary Peter Schwarz.

Engels, who together with Karl Marx fought to establish scientific socialism, wrote a number of brilliant and invaluable books and essays and played a leading role in the First and Second Internationals. Two hundred years since his birth, Engels' lifelong work has burning contemporary relevance.

The capitalist profit system and the nation-state system upon which it is based is historically obsolete and threatens the very existence of humanity as demonstrated by the world wars, fascistic cruelties and economic crises mankind confronted during the twentieth century. The bankrupt and reactionary nature of capitalism stands exposed by the COVID-19 pandemic and the murderous response of governments internationally that have placed profits of the few over the lives of millions.

The pandemic has deepened the crisis of capitalism, thrown mankind into a new stage of wars and revolutions, and once again revealed the correctness of Marxism and the burning need for socialist internationalism. The historical materialist analysis of Marx and Engels disclosed that the conditions for social revolutions are created by the inevitable contradiction between the development of productive forces and the existing relations of production.

The critical historical task posed before the international working class in the revolutionary

struggles that lie ahead is the arming of workers, youth, students and serious intellectuals with the scientific method and perspective of Marxism.

We urge workers, youth and students to register here for the forthcoming lecture and to fully participate with questions and comments in this important event.



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Socialist Equality Party visit:

wsws.org/contact